

PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, SEPTEMBER, 1947.

This bulletin has been prepared from detailed tabulations, made available by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of September, 1947. The information covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for benefit are awaiting consideration or those who do not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded.

Comparison with Previous Months.

The September figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 1,912 males and 87 females, the total of 1,999 being 5,593 less than the peak figure of 7,592 for February, and 901 below October, 1946.

| | End of Month. | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------|-----------------|--|--------|----------|--------|
| 1946 - | October | | 2,814 | 86 | 2,900 |
| | November | | 3,570 | 94 | 3,664 |
| | December | | 5,971 | 168 | 6,139 |
| 1947 - | January | | 7,262 | 228 | 7,490 |
| | February | | 7,394 | 198 | 7,592 |
| | March | | 6,505 | 184 | 6,689 |
| | April | | 4,693 | 149 | 4,847 |
| | May | | 3,935 | 151 | 4,086 |
| | June | | 3,102 | 129 | 3,231 |
| | July | | 2,747 | 113 | 2,860 |
| | August | | 2,089 | 97 | 2,186 |
| | September | | 1,912 | 87 | 1,999 |

The figures for the early months of 1947 were considerably affected by seasonal unemployment. February recorded the highest number on unemployment benefit for the 1946-47 season; and, as seasonal industries continued re-employing displaced workers, the number on benefit at the end of September, 1947, fell to the lowest level recorded since the figures first became available in October, 1946.

The number of females receiving benefit at the end of September was 87, compared with 97 for August. The Brisbane District figure (35) was the highest recorded for any one district for the month. Toowoomba District had 11 females drawing unemployment benefit at the end of September, and Rockhampton 8. The balance of 33 was distributed throughout the rest of the State.

Causes of unemployment are given below for the months of October, February (the peak month), August and September, together with the increase or decrease during September for each cause.

| Cause of Unemployment. | October, 1946. | February, 1947. | August, 1947. | September, 1947. | Increase(+) or Decrease(-) in September. |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--|
| Medical unfitness for type of work, work too heavy .. | 109 | 100 | 47 | 47 | . |
| Inefficiency, incompetence | 112 | 144 | 83 | 78 | -5 |
| Establishment closed, reduction of staff | 491 | 854 | 439 | 423 | -16 |
| Replaced by re-instated servicemen | 116 | 131 | 62 | 60 | -2 |
| Shortage of materials .. | 130 | 252 | 96 | 86 | -10 |
| Seasonal work and weather conditions | 276 | 3,327 | 168 | 179 | +11 |
| Casual work | 495 | 958 | 464 | 363 | -96 |
| Discharged or laid off for other reasons .. | 438 | 514 | 181 | 171 | -10 |
| Quitted because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc. .. | 231 | 440 | 295 | 287 | -8 |
| Quitted for other reasons | 179 | 324 | 164 | 136 | -28 |
| Not previously employed .. | 323 | 548 | 187 | 164 | -23 |
| | 2,900 | 7,592 | 2,186 | 1,999 | -187 |

The number of persons drawing unemployment benefit in August due to the seasonal nature of their work increased in September by 11, while all other causes recorded decreases. With the sugar season in full operation at the end of August, the pool of seasonal unemployment was practically eliminated. From the peak month of February 1947, when 3,327 were unemployed on account of seasonal reasons, employment replaced 3,159, leaving only 168 to be re-absorbed in work at the end of August, 1947. Most districts during September showed little change in seasonal unemployment: an increase of 18 in the Rockhampton district had the effect of increasing the State unemployment from this cause by 11.

The movements are illustrated in the following statement, which shows the number of persons drawing benefit in each district in October, 1946, the number in the month up to September, 1947, which showed the highest level of unemployment, and the number in September, 1947, together with the increase from October 1946 to the seasonal peak, and the subsequent decrease.

| <u>District.</u> | <u>October,</u> <u>1946.</u> | <u>Peak of Seasonal</u> <u>Unemployment to</u> <u>September, 1947.</u> | <u>September,</u> <u>1947.</u> | <u>Increase,</u> <u>October</u> <u>to Peak.</u> | <u>Decrease,</u> <u>Peak to</u> <u>September.</u> |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Brisbane .. | 1,401 | 2,065 (Feb. 1947) | 1,265 | 664 | 800 |
| Ipswich .. | 154 | 190 (Dec. 1946) | 38 | 36 | 152 |
| Gympie .. | 21 | 30 (Feb. 1947) | 15 | 9 | 15 |
| Maryborough | 127 | 221 (Jan. 1947) | 16 | 94 | 205 |
| Bundaberg .. | 101 | 596 (Jan. 1947) | 24 | 495 | 572 |
| Toowoomba .. | 94 | 177 (Feb. 1947) | 79 | 83 | 98 |
| Warwick .. | 23 | 42 (Dec. 1946) | 17 | 19 | 25 |
| Roma .. | 10 | 24 (Dec. 1946) | 8 | 14 | 16 |
| Charleville | 44 | 75 (Dec. 1946) | 19 | 31 | 56 |
| Rockhampton | 345 | 1,462 (Jan. 1947) | 176 | 1,117 | 1,286 |
| Emerald .. | 1 | 10 (Jan. 1947) | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| Longreach .. | 12 | 117 (Dec. 1946) | 16 | 105 | 101 |
| Mackay .. | 229 | 861 (Mar. 1947) | 70 | 632 | 791 |
| Ayr .. | 10 | 233 (Feb. 1947) | 9 | 223 | 224 |
| Townsville .. | 127 | 616 (Mar. 1947) | 70 | 489 | 546 |
| Ingham .. | 7 | 440 (Mar. 1947) | 5 | 433 | 435 |
| Innisfail .. | 15 | 368 (Mar. 1947) | 6 | 353 | 362 |
| Caipras .. | 77 | 599 (Mar. 1947) | 45 | 522 | 554 |
| Charters Towers | 69 | 182 (Feb. 1947) | 101 | 113 | 81 |
| Atherton .. | 30 | 78 (Mar. 1947) | 17 | 48 | 61 |
| Hughenden .. | 3 | 52 (Feb. 1947) | 2 | 49 | 50 |
| Total State | 2,900 | 7,592 (Feb. 1947) | 1,999 | 4,692 | 5,593 |

Causes by Districts.

The attached table (No. 1) shows the main causes of unemployment in each district. Moreton numbers were the highest in any district in September, 1947, and they represented a proportion of the district population above the State average. Moreton district is relatively unaffected by seasonal unemployment, and its rate of unemployment tends to be above the State average in months when seasonal activity reduces unemployment to a low level in other districts, and below the State average when seasonal activity in other districts has decreased, and raised the numbers unemployed in those districts. Comparison of the rates per 10,000 population showed the highest figure for the north-west districts. The South-East Coastal District showed the lowest rate, followed by Downs and South-West and north coastal districts which were low on account of the almost complete absence of seasonal unemployment in these areas.

Industries by Districts.

Table No. 2 shows the industries in which those drawing benefit are normally engaged. Food and Drink have the highest total (14 per cent. of the total drawing unemployment benefit), closely followed by Building and Construction (12 per cent.). The largest decreases compared with August were in Shipping and Wharf work (138 to 91), and Wholesale Trade (122 to 97). Food and Drink factories showed a fairly large increase (203 to 274).

The most significant changes in districts during September were increases in unemployment amongst workers previously employed in Food and Drink factories - all districts with the exception of South-East Coastal and Downs and South-West showing increases. The Brisbane (93 to 142) and Rockhampton (56 to 74) areas were chiefly responsible for the increase. The decrease in unemployment of persons usually employed in Shipping and Wharf work was chiefly due to the decrease from 28 to nil in the Bundaberg area during September.

S. E. SOLOMON.

ACTING GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE.

14th January, 1948.

TABLE 1. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

SEPTEMBER, 1947.

DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

| DISTRICT. | Discharged or Laid Off. | | | | | | | | Quitted. | | Not previously employed. | Total. | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| | Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc. | Inefficiency, incompetence. | Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment. | Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only. | Shortage of Materials. | Seasonal work and weather conditions. | Casual work. | Discharged or laid-off for other reasons. | Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice. | Quitted for other reasons. | | Number. | Per 10,000 population. |
| Brisbane .. | 30 | 63 | 299 | 42 | 60 | 41 | 212 | 113 | 201 | 87 | 117 | 1,265 | |
| Ipswich .. | . | 1 | 6 | . | 3 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 38 | |
| Moreton .. | 30 | 64 | 305 | 42 | 63 | 43 | 221 | 119 | 204 | 91 | 121 | 1,305 | 24 |
| Lympie .. | . | 1 | 1 | . | 7 | . | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | . | 15 | |
| Maryborough .. | . | . | 2 | 2 | . | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | . | 16 | |
| Bundaberg .. | . | . | 4 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 24 | |
| S.E. Coastal .. | . | 1 | 7 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 55 | 5 |
| Goowoomba .. | 1 | 1 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 16 | 10 | 17 | 4 | 5 | 79 | |
| Warwick .. | 1 | 1 | 4 | . | . | . | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 17 | |
| Roma .. | . | . | . | . | . | . | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | . | 8 | |
| Charleville .. | . | . | . | . | . | 7 | 9 | 1 | 1 | . | 1 | 19 | |
| Downs & S.W. .. | 2 | 2 | 19 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 32 | 15 | 22 | 7 | 7 | 123 | 8 |
| Lockhampton .. | 3 | 2 | 23 | 3 | 4 | 57 | 30 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 176 | |
| Emerald .. | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | |
| Longreach .. | . | 2 | 1 | . | . | 3 | 3 | . | 5 | 2 | . | 16 | |
| Central .. | 3 | 4 | 29 | 3 | 4 | 61 | 33 | 12 | 18 | 16 | 10 | 193 | 19 |
| Mackay .. | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 28 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 70 | |
| Yarr .. | . | . | 4 | . | . | 3 | 1 | . | . | 1 | . | 9 | |
| Townsville .. | 3 | 5 | 18 | 2 | . | 9 | 2 | 9 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 70 | |
| Ingham .. | . | . | . | . | . | 3 | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | 5 | |
| Innisfail .. | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | 6 | |
| Cairns .. | 1 | . | 15 | . | . | 24 | 2 | . | . | 1 | 2 | 45 | |
| N. Coastal .. | 8 | 6 | 42 | 3 | 1 | 51 | 35 | 12 | 24 | 12 | 11 | 205 | 14 |
| Charters Towers .. | 4 | 1 | 20 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 28 | 6 | 12 | 6 | 11 | 101 | |
| Atherton .. | . | . | 1 | . | . | 2 | 10 | 1 | . | . | 3 | 17 | |
| Hughenden .. | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | . | 2 | |
| North West .. | 4 | 1 | 21 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 40 | 7 | 12 | 6 | 14 | 120 | 26 |
| TOTAL STATE | 47 | 78 | 423 | 60 | 86 | 179 | 368 | 171 | 287 | 136 | 164 | 1,999 | 18 |

TABLE 2. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

SEPTEMBER, 1947.

DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

| DISTRICT. | Industry in Which Last Engaged. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | TOTAL. |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| | Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairying. | Other Primary (including Mining). | Engineering. | Food and Drink. | Other Factories. | Building and Construction. | Shipping and Wharf Work. | Transport. | Wholesale. | Retail. | Previously Employed by Australian or Allied Services. | Personal and Domestic Service. | Discharged Servicemen. | Other Industries. | |
| Brisbane .. | 48 | 19 | 122 | 142 | 100 | 106 | 68 | 73 | 72 | 73 | 160 | 84 | 57 | 141 | 1,265 |
| Ipswich .. | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 1 | . | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 38 |
| Moreton .. | 51 | 22 | 123 | 144 | 104 | 118 | 70 | 74 | 72 | 74 | 162 | 85 | 58 | 146 | 1,303 |
| ympie .. | 1 | 2 | . | . | 7 | 3 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | 15 |
| anyborough | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | . | 4 | . | 2 | . | 4 | . | . | . | . | 16 |
| undaberg.. | 8 | 2 | 1 | 2 | . | 6 | . | . | . | 2 | . | 2 | . | 1 | 24 |
| S.E. Coastal | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 13 | . | 2 | . | 6 | . | 2 | . | 3 | 55 |
| coowoomba.. | 7 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 9 | . | 4 | 5 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 79 |
| arwick .. | 1 | . | 1 | 3 | . | 8 | . | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | . | 2 | 17 |
| oma .. | 3 | . | . | . | . | 2 | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | 1 | . | . | 8 |
| axleville | 15 | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 1 | 1 | 19 |
| Doves & S.W. | 26 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 20 | . | 5 | 6 | 13 | 8 | 11 | 3 | 13 | 123 |
| ockhampton | 15 | 4 | 5 | 74 | . | 30 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 176 |
| nerold .. | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 |
| ongreach.. | 11 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 4 | . | . | 16 |
| entral .. | 26 | 4 | 5 | 75 | . | 30 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 193 |
| ackay .. | 10 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 16 | 5 | . | 1 | 5 | . | 7 | 2 | 6 | 70 |
| yr .. | 2 | . | . | 3 | . | 2 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | 9 |
| ownsville | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 10 | 8 | . | 3 | 70 |
| igham .. | 3 | 1 | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5 |
| misfail.. | 3 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | 1 | . | . | 6 |
| irms .. | 12 | 2 | . | 14 | . | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | . | 2 | 1 | 2 | 45 |
| N. Coastal | 33 | 8 | 5 | 37 | 11 | 30 | 12 | 3 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 18 | 3 | 12 | 205 |
| arters | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| lowers .. | 20 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 29 | . | 4 | 2 | 3 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 101 |
| herton .. | 2 | 2 | . | 2 | 1 | 6 | . | 1 | . | 1 | 1 | . | . | 1 | 17 |
| ghenden.. | 2 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 |
| orth West | 24 | 14 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 35 | . | 5 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 120 |
| TOTAL STATE | 171 | 54 | 143 | 274 | 131 | 246 | 91 | 94 | 97 | 117 | 195 | 126 | 68 | 192 | 1,999 |

S/T 1980